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INDIA

TSUNAMI RESPONSE

Shelters and Clean Water are Among Priorities

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Citizens of Cuddalore municipality construct temporary shelters for those who lost their homes in the tsunami. Some construction programs give men, women and youth a way to earn money to meet their daily needs.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

The best way to help is to make cash contributions to humanitarian organizations working to assist the affected countries.

For a list of organizations accepting donations, please see "Tsunami Relief" at www.usaid.gov or call the Center for International Disaster Information at (703) 276-1914.

For more information on USAID's assistance to tsunami victims in India, visit www.usaid.gov/in.

TAMIL NADU AND TERRITORY OF ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS HIT HARDEST

The aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunamis continues to unfold. In India, immediate relief efforts are proceeding well, particularly in more accessible areas, such as the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu. Still, tens of thousands of people are suffering with grief from lost loved ones, loss of property and livelihoods, and the trauma of the events. Whole "identities" have been wiped out, according to one disaster expert. With no paperwork or anything tangible left to mark a human life, even claiming personal identity can be a struggle.

India was hardest hit in Tamil Nadu and the territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Human losses of more than 10,000 and physical damage are significant, yet swift and steady emergency response from state and local government officials in Tamil Nadu helped people get access to life-saving clean water and other basic needs. Local, Indian-based non-governmental organizations played a key role in immediate relief and are transitioning into recovery and rehabilitation efforts.

USAID HELPS INDIA RECOVER

The U.S. Government, via USAID India, now supports recovery initiatives valued at \$2.8 million (and expects to commit more than \$3.1 million to the recovery program). Partners in these efforts include the India-based operations of CARE, Catholic Relief Services, World Vision and Project Concern International. These commitments follow

Ambassador Mulford's immediate disaster declaration that allowed a rapid \$100,000 disbursement to the Indian Prime Minister's Relief Fund and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent for short-term emergency response.

Efforts funded by USAID include:

- A cash-for-work program led by World Vision India to construct 2,500 temporary shelters, under a nearly \$900,000 grant, while providing families the opportunity to earn money to meet other household needs.
- A grant of more than \$440,000 to Project Concern International, India, to fund recovery and rehabilitation in four villages. Activities include building temporary shelters; repairing boats for the fishing industry; starting "cash-for-work" options for men, women and young adults related to disaster clean-up; and organizing child day care centers, so mothers can re-establish households or seek income opportunities, and children can heal from the trauma.
- Grants of \$650,000 to CARE (India), and \$750,000 to Catholic Relief Services (India) to ensure potable water and sanitation services for Indians.